

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended). An integrated lifting system for a boat cradle which automatically compensates for the ~~changing~~ variable distance between a fixed support and the surface of a body of water having a fluctuating depth over time wherein the cradle is raised and lowered by motors on the fixed support and the boat is carried by the cradle, said system comprising a level sensing module and a motor control module operatively interconnected, said level sensing module comparing the water line of the boat and the surface of the water, said level sensing module adapted to be mounted on the cradle to determine the relative position of the water line of the boat and the surface of the water, ~~said level sensing module including a control circuit for said motor control module,~~ motor control circuit module determining the direction of the cradle movement, said motor control module adapted to be connected to the motors whereby said motor control module energizes the motors to move the cradle and said level sensing module signals said motor control module to stop the motors when the water line and the surface of the water reach a predetermined distance.

2. (Currently amended) An integrated lifting system for a boat cradle of claim 1 further comprising a receiver module operatively interconnected to said motor control module, ~~said receiver operatively connected to said motor control module~~, said receiver module including manual switches for operating said system.

3. (Currently amended) An integrated lifting system for a boat cradle of claim 2 further comprising a transmitter module operatively connected to said receiver module, said transmitter module being portable and including manual switches for operating said system, said receiver module accepting input from said transmitter module manual switches and conveying said input to said motor control module.

4. Cancel

5. (Currently amended) An integrated lifting system for a boat cradle of ~~claim 4~~ claim 1 further comprising said level sensing module having at least one float switch ~~in said control circuit~~, said float switch activated by a certain water depth.

6. (Currently amended) An integrated lifting system for a boat cradle of claim 2 further comprising a storage limit switch

operatively connected with said motor control module, said storage limit switch adapted to be attached to the fixed support, one of said manual switches commanding a storage ~~circuit~~ position, said ~~circuit~~ manual switch non-responsive with said storage limit switch closed and the cradle in the storage position, said motor control module signaling the motors to raise the cradle with said storage limit switch open.

7. (Currently amended) An integrated lifting system for a boat cradle of claim 6 further comprising another of said manual switches commanding a launch/retrieve ~~circuit~~ position, said ~~circuit~~ another manual switch non-responsive with the cradle in the launch/retrieve position, otherwise said motor control module signaling the motors to ~~move~~ raise or lower the cradle to the launch/retrieve position.

8. (Currently amended) An integrated lifting system for a boat cradle of claim 7 further comprising a third manual switch commanding a load/unload ~~circuit~~ position, said ~~circuit~~ third manual switch non-responsive with the cradle in the load/unload position, said motor control module signaling the motors to raise the cradle with the cradle below the load/unload position or to lower the cradle with the cradle above the load/unload position.

9. (Currently amended) An integrated lifting system for a boat cradle of claim 3 further comprising another of said manual switches commanding a launch/retrieve ~~circuit~~ position, said ~~circuit~~ another manual switch non-responsive with the cradle in the launch/retrieve position, otherwise said motor control module signaling the motors to ~~lower~~ move the cradle to the launch/retrieve position.

10. (Currently amended) An integrated lifting system for a boat cradle of claim 3 further comprising a third manual switch commanding a load/unload ~~circuit~~ position, said third manual switch ~~circuit~~ non-responsive with the cradle in the load/unload position, said motor control module signaling the motors to raise the cradle with the cradle below the load/unload position or to lower the cradle with the cradle above the load/unload position.

11. (Currently amended) In an integrated ~~An integrated~~ lifting system for a vessel which automatically compensates for the changing distance between a dock and the surface of a body of water having a fluctuating depth over time ~~comprising~~ ,said dock having a fixed support, at least one motor mounted on said fixed support, a cradle movably connected to said at least one motor, said cradle adapted to lift and lower a vessel, the improvement comprising a

motor control module including a control circuit mounted on said fixed support and operatively interconnected to said at least one motor, a level sensing module operatively connected to said motor control module, said level sensing module having a switch activated as comparing the water line of the vessel and the surface of the water coincide, ~~said level sensing module including a control circuit for said motor control module,~~ said control circuit determining the direction of said cradle movement whereby said motor control module energizes said at least one motor to raise or lower the cradle and said level sensing module signals said motor control module to stop said at least one motor when said switch is activated ~~the water line of the vessel and the surface of the water reach predetermined distance.~~

12. (Currently amended) An integrated lifting system for a vessel of claim 11 further comprising said cradle adapted to be immersed in water below the water line of the vessel, said cradle ~~means~~ adapted to capture a floating vessel, ~~said control module controlling power to said at least one motor,~~ said switch of said level sensing module mounted on said cradle at a position approximately parallel with the water line of said vessel when said vessel is supported by said cradle.

13. Cancel

14. (Original) A lifting system of claim 11 further comprising at least one safety switch operatively connected to said motor control module, when activated said safety switch energizes said motor control module to not accept signals from the level sensing module and disengage said motor.

15. Cancel

16. (Currently amended) A method of automatically positioning a vessel lift cradle at the proper depth in a body of water with changing depths comprising

a) ~~providing a stationary support in the water with a vertically~~ movable cradle for lifting a vessel out of the water and lowering a vessel into the water, ~~said stationary support having a storage limit switch;~~

b) providing a power source connected to said cradle for moving said cradle;

c) providing a control module with a ~~connection~~ control circuit connected to said power source and a level sensing module, said control module having three states, storage, load/unload and launch/retrieve, said storage state placing said cradle at a limit

above the water determined by activation of a limit switch in said control circuit, said launch/retrieve state placing said cradle in the water at a level determined by said level sensing module and said load/unload state being an intermediate position determined by said level sensing module;

d) providing said level sensing module with a switch in said control circuit located on said cradle referenced to the waterline of said vessel floating in said cradle, ~~said level sensing module having at least one float switch tied into said connection between said control module and said power source;~~

e) providing a receiver module operatively connected with said ~~level sensing module~~ control circuit, said receiver module having command buttons for said storage state, said load/unload state and said launch/retrieve state;

f) ~~providing a~~ said control circuit interconnecting said storage limit switch, said level sensing module, said control module and said receiver module, said control module determining the direction of vertical movement of said ~~power source~~ cradle, said control module starting and stopping said power source;

g) operating said storage button and said control circuit sending a signal to said power source to raise said cradle when said limit switch is open;

h) said power source raising said cradle above the water until said

limit switch is tripped and said control circuit stops said power source.

17. (Original) A method of automatically positioning a vessel lift cradle of claim 16 further comprising

a) operating said launch/retrieve button and said control circuit sending a signal to said power source to move the cradle to the launch/retrieve position when said cradle is not in said launch/retrieve position;

b) said power source moving said cradle until said level sensing module is in the launch/retrieve position and said control circuit stops said power source.

18. (Original) A method of automatically positioning a vessel lift cradle of claim 17 further comprising

a) operating said load/unload button and said control circuit sending a signal to said power source to raise said cradle when said cradle is below in said load/unload position, said load/unload position determined by said level sensing module;

b) said power source raising said cradle until said level sensing module is in said load/unload position and said control circuit stops said power source; or

c) sending a signal to said power source to lower said cradle when



said cradle is above said load/unload position;

d) said power source moving said cradle until said level sensing module is in said load/unload position and said control circuit stops said power source.

19. (Original) A method of automatically positioning a vessel lift cradle of claim 16 further comprising

a) providing a portable transmitter module, said transmitter module having command buttons for said storage state , said load/unload state and said launch/retrieve state, said transmitter operatively connected to said receiver;

b) operating said transmitter buttons to remotely energize, respectively, said buttons of said receiver.

20. (Original) A method of automatically positioning a vessel lift cradle of claim 16 further comprising

a) providing an independent safety circuit including at least one safety switch operatively connected to said control module;

b) determining said cradle has exceeded said storage state or said launch/retrieve state;

c) energizing said at least one safety switch to signal said control module to disregard signals from said level sensing module and disconnect from said power source to prevent damage to said

vessel.